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IN THE CLAIMS

The current claims follow. For claims not marked as amended in this response, any difference in the claims below and the previous state of the claims is unintentional and in the nature of a typographical error.

1-23. (Canceled).

24. (Currently Amended) For use in a wireless communications system, a mobile switching center, comprising:

a controller which, having

sent a call waiting notification to a base station serving a mobile station participating in a first call, the call waiting notification indicating that a new second call is waiting to be put through to the mobile station, and

received a clear request message from the base station in response to the call waiting notification prior to the second call being put through to the mobile station, wherein the clear request message is sent by the base station in response to a release order sent by the mobile station,

transmits a clearing procedure message to the base station to maintain resource allocations designated for the mobile station and alert the mobile station that the second call is waiting.

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25. (Previously Presented) The mobile switching center according to claim 24, wherein the clearing procedure message is a clear reject message defined to prompt maintenance of the resource allocations designated for the mobile station and transmission of an alert to the mobile station that the second call is waiting.

26. (Previously Presented) The mobile switching center according to claim 24, wherein the clearing procedure message is a clear command message with a cause value defined to prompt maintenance of the resource allocations designated for the mobile station and transmission of an alert to the mobile station that the second call is waiting.

27. (Previously Presented) The mobile switching center according to claim 24, wherein, after transmitting the clearing procedure message, the controller awaits a connect message indicating that the mobile station has initiated connection to the second call.

28. (Currently Amended) For use in a wireless communications system, a base station serving a mobile station participating in a first call, comprising:

a controller which, having

received a call waiting notification from a mobile switching center, the call waiting notification indicating that a new second call is waiting to be put through to the mobile station,

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transmitted a clear request message in response to the call waiting notification prior to the second call being put through to the mobile station, wherein the clear request message is transmitted in response to a release order sent by the mobile station, and

received a clearing procedure message from the mobile switching center in response to the clear request message,

in response to the clearing procedure message maintains resource allocations designated for the mobile station and alerts the mobile station that the second call is waiting.

29. (Previously Presented) The base station according to claim 28, wherein the clearing procedure message is a clear reject message defined to prompt maintenance of the resource allocations designated for the mobile station and transmission of an alert to the mobile station that the second call is waiting.

30. (Previously Presented) The base station according to claim 28, wherein the clearing procedure message is a clear command message with a cause value defined to prompt maintenance of the resource allocations designated for the mobile station and transmission of an alert to the mobile station that the second call is waiting.

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31. (Previously Presented) The base station according to claim 28, wherein, after alerting the mobile station of the holding call, the controller awaits a connect order from the mobile station requesting connection of the mobile station to the second call.

32. (Currently Amended) A wireless communication system, comprising:
a base station serving a mobile station participating in a first call; and
a mobile switching center coupled to the base station,
wherein the mobile switching center, having
sent a call waiting notification to the base station to set up a new second call to the mobile station, and
received a clear request message from the base station in response to the call waiting notification prior to the second call being put through to the mobile station, wherein the clear request message is sent by the base station in response to a release order sent by the mobile station,
transmits a clearing procedure message to the base station to maintain resource allocations designated for the mobile station and alert the mobile station that the second call is waiting.

33. (Previously Presented) The wireless communications system according to claim 32, wherein the clearing procedure message is a clear reject message defined to prompt maintenance of the resource allocations designated for the mobile station and transmission of an alert to the mobile station that the second call is waiting.

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34. (Previously Presented) The wireless communications system according to claim 32, wherein the clearing procedure message is a clear command message with a cause value defined to prompt maintenance of the resource allocations designated for the mobile station and transmission of an alert to the mobile station that the second call is waiting.

35. (Previously Presented) The wireless communications system according to claim 32, wherein a timer having a default value of 1.5 seconds is started by the clear request message and stopped by the clearing procedure message.

36. (Previously Presented) The wireless communications system according to claim 32, wherein a timer having a default value of 30 seconds is started by the clearing procedure message and stopped by a connect message indicating that the mobile station has initiated connection to the second call.

37. (Previously Presented) The wireless communications system according to claim 32, wherein the base station, upon receiving the clearing procedure message, transmits an alert with information message to the mobile station to alert the mobile station that the second call is waiting.

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38. (Previously Presented) The wireless communications system according to claim 37, wherein the base station, in transmitting the alert with information message to the mobile station, causes a ring tone to sound at the mobile station.

39. (Previously Presented) The wireless communications system according to claim 37, wherein the base station, after transmitting the alert with information message to the mobile station, awaits an acknowledgment of the alert with information message from the mobile station.

40. (Previously Presented) The wireless communications system according to claim 37, wherein the base station, after transmitting the alert with information message to the mobile station, awaits a connect order from the mobile station requesting connection to the second call and, upon receiving the connect order, transmits a connect message to the mobile switching center.

41. (Currently Amended) A method of wireless communications, comprising:
transmitting a call waiting notification message to a base station serving a mobile station participating in an active call, the call waiting notification message sent in order to set up a new second call to the mobile station;

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receiving a clear request message from the base station in response to the call waiting notification prior to the second call being put through to the mobile station, wherein the clear request message is sent by the base station in response to a release order sent by the mobile station; and transmitting a clearing procedure message to the base station to maintain resource allocations designated for the mobile station and alert the mobile station that the second call is waiting.

42. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 41, wherein the step of transmitting a clearing procedure message to the base station to maintain resource allocations designated for the mobile station and alert the mobile station of the second call further comprises:

transmitting a clear reject message defined to prompt maintenance of the resource allocations designated for the mobile station and transmission of an alert to the mobile station that the second call is waiting.

43. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 41, wherein the step of transmitting a clearing procedure message to the base station to maintain resource allocations designated for the mobile station and alert the mobile station of the second call further comprises:

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transmitting a clear command message with a cause value defined to prompt maintenance of the resource allocations designated for the mobile station and transmission of an alert to the mobile station that the second call is waiting.

44. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 41, further comprising:

starting a timer for the base station having a default value of 1.5 seconds in response to transmitting the clear request message;

stopping the timer for the base station in response to receiving the clearing procedure message;

starting a timer for the mobile switching center having a default value of 30 seconds in response to transmitting the clearing procedure message; and

stopping the timer for the mobile switching center in response to receiving a connect message indicating that the mobile station has initiated connection to the second call.

45. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 41, further comprising:
responsive to receiving the clearing procedure message at the base station, transmitting an alert with information message to the mobile station to alert the mobile station that the second call is waiting and to cause a ring tone to sound at the mobile station.

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46. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 41, further comprising:
after transmitting the alert with information message to the mobile station, awaiting an acknowledgment of the alert with information message from the mobile station and a connect order message from the mobile station requesting connection to the second call; and
upon receiving the connect order message, transmitting a connect message to the mobile switching center.